

House Resolution No. 33

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize Rodney S. Wead, Ph.D., of St. Louis, Missouri, upon his retirement from Grace Hill Settlement House after a successful career that has spanned more than forty years; and

Whereas, in his role as President and Chief Executive Officer since 1997, Dr. Wead has been responsible for the supervision of eleven neighborhoods in the City of St. Louis, St. Louis County, and St. Charles County, a budget of approximately \$16 million, and programs that focus on neighborhood organization, family and child support, health, housing and economic development; and

Whereas, an African-American and religious historian with expertise in urban studies, Dr. Wead holds a Bachelor of Science degree in History and Education from Dana College in Blair, Nebraska; a Master of Arts degree in Urban Studies from Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois; and a Doctorate in Sociology from The Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio; and

Whereas, prior to his affiliation with Grace Hill Settlement House, Dr. Wead served as the Executive Director of Neighborhood House, Inc., in Columbus, Ohio, from 1992 to 1997; interim Professor of Black Studies at the University of Omaha, Nebraska, from 1991 to 1992; Executive Director of the United Methodist Community Center, Inc., in Omaha from 1983 to 1991; Associate Professor of Sociology at Creighton University in Omaha from 1987 to 1992; Associate Executive Director of Community Renewal Society of Chicago from 1974 to 1983; and Executive Director of the United Methodist Centers, Inc., in Omaha from 1968 to 1974; and

Whereas, an active member of countless organizations including Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, the National Head Start Association, and the Techni-Color Coalition, Dr. Wead is the proud recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the 2001 United Neighborhood Centers Award of Merit, 2001 Old North Neighborhood Special Distinguished Award, 2002 Kappa Alpha Psi Outstanding Achievement Award, 1993 Columbus Public Schools Golden Rule Award, and the 1991 Malcolm X Award, just to name a few; and

Whereas, Dr. Wead is exceedingly proud of the many publications he has authored that include "M.O.R.E. - A Viable Self-Help Option for Low Income Communities, presented in Rotterdam, Netherlands, in 2002; "Giving a Gift That Multiplies", the St. Louis Post Dispatch, 1998; "Tribute to Martin Luther King", the St. Louis Post Dispatch, 1997; "Juneteenth", the St. Louis American, 1996; "Tribute to Martin Luther King", St. Louis American, 2000; and "Frederick Douglass", the Omaha World Herald, 1985:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in expressing our utmost appreciation to Dr. Wead for his four decades of unparalleled service to settlement houses throughout the nation and in wishing him the long, rewarding, and enjoyable retirement he so richly deserves; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Dr. Rodney S. Wead, as a mark of our esteem for him.

Offered by _____
Representative Juanita Head Walton
District No. 81

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 33, adopted January 10, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker